

CLAIMS

1. Method of transcoding digital data coded according to a first coding mode into digital data coded according to a second coding mode,
5 characterized in that it includes the steps of:
 - detecting (E1, E21, E42) the inactivity of resources useful for the transcoding,
 - transcoding (E4, E25, E44) the digital data coded according to the first coding mode into the digital data coded according to the second coding
10 mode, when the inactivity is detected.
2. Method according to Claim 1, characterized in that it also comprises the steps of:
 - detecting (E6, E21) a request demanding data coded according to
15 the first coding mode,
 - verifying (E7, E28) that the data demanded are coded according to the second coding mode,
 - transcoding (E8, E32) the data coded according to the second coding mode into data coded according to the first coding mode, if the response
20 at the verification step is positive.
3. Method according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that it also comprises the step of:
 - selecting (E3, E24) an order of transcoding of the digital data coded
25 according to the first coding mode into the digital data coded according to the second coding mode.
4. Method according to Claim 3, characterized in that the transcoding order is determined according to the size of the files containing the
30 data to be transcoded.

5. Method according to Claim 3, characterized in that the transcoding order is determined according to the frequency of requesting the files containing the data to be transcoded.

5 6. Transcoding method according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the first coding mode is a coding according to the JPEG standard.

10 7. Transcoding method according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the first coding mode is a coding according to the JPEG2000 standard.

15 8. Transcoding method according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the second coding mode is a coding according to which the data are coded by an amplitude curve and a path amongst the data.

9. Transcoding method according to any one of Claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the data are a digital image.

20 10. Device for transcoding digital data coded according to a first coding mode into digital data coded according to a second coding mode, characterized in that it comprises:

- means (21) of detecting the inactivity of resources useful for the transcoding,

25 - means (26) of transcoding the digital data coded according to the first coding mode into the digital data coded according to the second coding mode, when the inactivity is detected.

30 11. Device according to Claim 10, characterized in that it also comprises:

- means (21) of detecting a request demanding data coded according to the first coding mode,

- means (21) of verifying that the data demanded are coded according to the second coding mode,

- means (27) of transcoding the data coded according to the second coding mode into data coded according to the first coding mode, if the response
5 at the verification step is positive.

12. Device according to Claim 10 or 11, characterized in that it also comprises:

- means of selecting an order of transcoding of the digital data coded
10 according to the first coding mode into the digital data coded according to the second coding mode.

13. Device according to Claim 12, characterized in that it is adapted to determine the transcoding order according to the size of the files containing
15 the data to be transcoded.

14. Device according to Claim 12, characterized in that it is adapted to determine the transcoding order according to the frequency of requesting the files containing the data to be transcoded.
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15. Transcoding device according to any one of Claims 10 to 14, characterized in that it is adapted to implement a first coding mode, which is a coding according to the JPEG standard.

25 16. Transcoding device according to any one of Claims 10 to 14, characterized in that it is adapted to implement a first coding mode, which is a coding according to the JPEG2000 standard.

30 17. Transcoding device according to any one of Claims 10 to 16, characterized in that it is adapted to implement a second coding mode, which is a coding according to which the data are coded by an amplitude curve and a path amongst the data.

18. Transcoding device according to any one of Claims 10 to 17, characterized in that it is adapted to process data which are a digital image.

5 19. Transcoding device according to any one of Claims 10 to 18, characterized in that the detection and transcoding means are incorporated in:

- a microprocessor (100),
- a read only memory (102) containing a program for processing the data, and

10 - a random access memory (103) containing registers adapted to record variables modified during the execution of said program.

20. Digital data processing apparatus (10), characterized in that it has means adapted to implement the method according to any one of Claims 1
15 to 9.

21. Digital data processing apparatus (10), characterized in that it comprises the device according to any one of Claims 10 to 19.

20 22. Digital data processing apparatus (10) according to Claims 20 or 22, characterized in that it forms part of a peer-to-peer network.

23. Digital photographic apparatus (20), characterized in that it comprises means adapted to implement the method according to any one of
25 Claims 1 to 9.

24. Digital photographic apparatus (20), characterized in that it comprises the device according to any one of Claims 10 to 19.

30 25. Storage medium storing a program for implementing the method according to any one of Claims 1 to 9.

26. Storage medium according to claim 25, characterised in that said storage medium is detachably mountable on a device according to any one of Claims 10 to 19.

5 27. Storage medium according to claim 25 or 26, characterised in that said storage medium is a floppy disk or a CD-ROM.

 28. A computer program on an information carrier, characterized in that it comprises program instructions adapted to implement the method
10 according to Claim 1, when this program is loaded and executed in a computer system.